news release

concordia university

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A FIRST FOR LOYOLA - HOSTING THE RITUAL OF THE CALLING OF AN ENGINEER

For the first time since Engineering was instituted at Loyola of Montreal in 1943, the Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer was held on the Loyola Campus of Concordia University the evening of Friday, November 22nd.

The candidates who received the ring were the Loyola Engineering graduating class of 1974, a group of 12 students all with a graduating average no lower than a B-plus. Those attending were Mr. Jean Guay, Convenor of Camp Two of the Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer; the candidates; their parents; Associate Dean George Joly; and professors Stefanovic, Krakow, Krantzberg, Kubina, Neemeh, Cerny, and Trueman.

The ceremony, the presentation of an iron ring to be worn on the little finger of the right (working) hand, is always conducted in private. Mr. Guay describes the proceedings as "a ceremony of obligation to the engineer to adhere to the code of ethics - like the hypocratic oath".

The accouterments of the ceremony consist of an anvil and a hammer, symbolizing the working of iron; (the material most commonly associated with engineering) and a large iron chain which the candidates hold during the ceremony symbolically binding them together; and, of course, the ring itself which is to serve as a lifelong reminder of the ceremony and of its implications. The Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer was instituted in 1925, for which the British poet Rudyard Kipling wrote and devised the proceedings.

Associate Dean Joly notes that the presentation marks the first year Loyola graduates have been accepted by the Order of Engineers of Quebec, O.E.Q., without further studies at another institution. While the Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer administers the oath, it is from the order that the graduates receive their license to practice in the form of certification as a professional engineer and the right to use the letters O.E.Q. after their names.

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